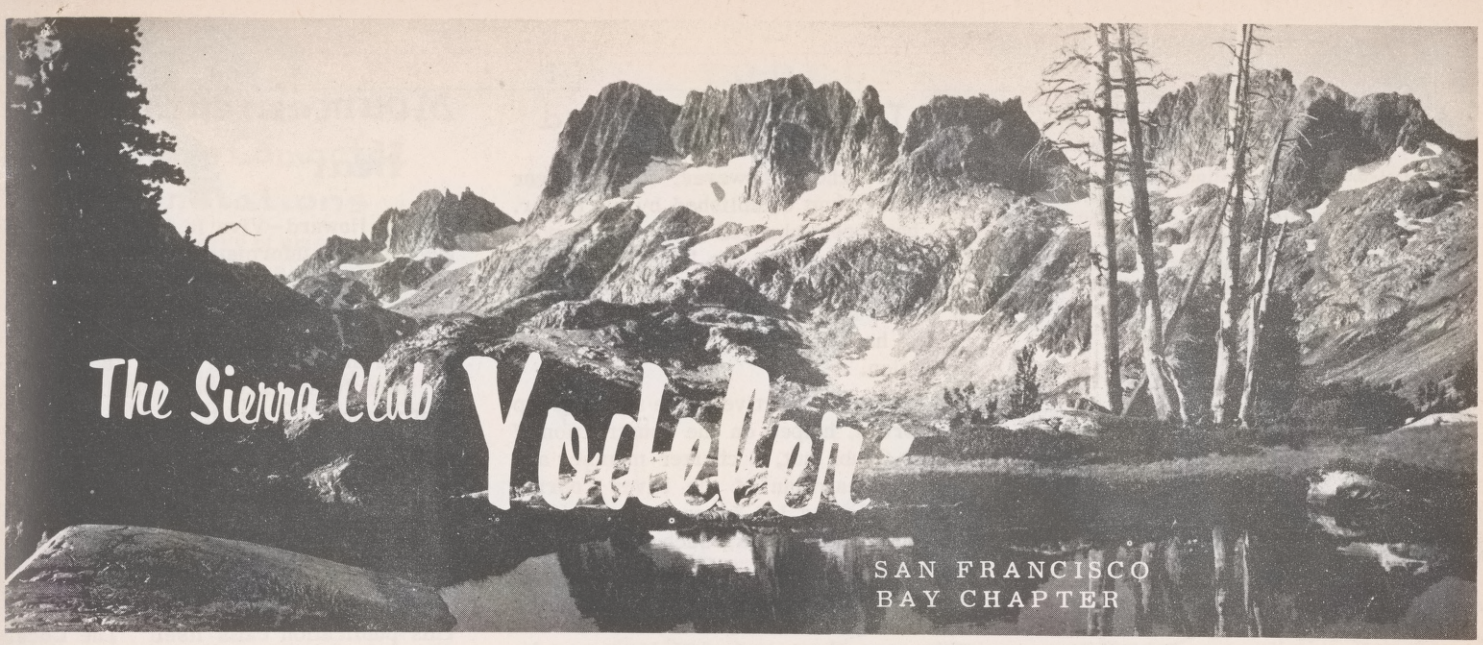


Volume XXI March 2, 1959 Number 5

EMERALD BAY
Time For Action

The State Park Commission held its February meeting in San Francisco, giving a chance for local people to head and be heard on the special issues of Tamalpais State Park and Mt. Diablo State Park.

The most pressing matter before the Commission, however, was the proposed low level route of Highway 89, on the west side of Lake Tahoe, through Bliss and Emerald Bay State Parks on either side of the mouth of Emerald Bay. The Commission is very concerned over the efforts to push the project in the Legislature by resolutions and bills before hearings are arranged and expert studies are available. At least they have been promised a hearing before Senator Berry's Resolution, which passed the Senate last month, is acted on in the Assembly. The Commission summed up their position thus: The State now has $150,000 invested in these parks: The low level route would not only run the length of the narrow shore line parks, it would have to cross it to reach the beach. The Commission wants to know: Can Parks which were bought with the help of matching money (private gifts) be used for highways: what means can be used to keep the higher route open in winter; and whether the Division of Beaches and Parks can supply any reliable picture to show what the lower route would look like? The Commission has received over 300 letter supporting their position. The pleasure with which they announced this shows how much letters are appreciated.

Readers who will express their own ideas to their Assemblymen and Senators can help enormously in this fight to preserve public parks and public beauty spots. Late news is that a Hearing on State Senate Bill 146 is scheduled for TUESDAY, MARCH 10. This bill directs the State Park Commission to grant a right of way across the two State Parks. THE HEARING WILL BE 3 DAYS AFTER YOU READ THIS!

The release of the Trask report showing that tunnels on the high level route are quite feasible has strengthened the position of those opposing the low level route. Mr. Parker D. Trask is a geologist retained by the Sierra Club to make an independent study of the two routes.

Discussion of Tamalpais State Park, once again, found the Commission patiently asking the Division of Beaches and Parks to start definite action. Mr. Kent was present at the meeting and expressed his hope that the Commission would buy his land, north of Steep Ravine and the coastal strip almost south to Gull Rock. The Commission told Mr. Kent they are indeed interested in his offer but they must have appraisals of ALL proposed acquisitions first. Legislation is to be introduced allowing funds from the million dollars voted last year to be used over a wider area than the Frank Valley watershed. The Sierra Club has no objection to this provided we have reasonable assurance that key areas will not be omitted.

(continued on page 2)

Two Dates to Remember

All Club members should keep two special upcoming events in mind—the Wilderness Conference to be held at the Fairmont Hotel on Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21, and the Annual Dinner at the San Francisco Village on Saturday, April 25. The Committee working on the Annual Dinner reports that plans are going smoothly to make this an outstanding event on the Club Social Calendar, and members who have attended sessions of the Wilderness Conference in the past report that much interesting information is imparted by the Internationally known speakers who participate at these meetings. —EDB

Up The River

Our story tonight concerns another well-known Sierra Clubber who is doing a big job of behind-the-scenes work for the benefit and enjoyment of all Club members. This would be A. Louis Elliott, Production Manager of the "Yodeler," Vice Chairman of the Bay Chapter Executive Committee, and the big man behind those exciting and adventurous long distance river touring trips which the Sierra Club sponsors during the summer months each year. Lou was brought up in that watery state of Michigan and claims he went on his first canoe camping trip at the tender age of 6 weeks (some memory, say we!). Thus Lou's life-long interest in canoeing was developed at an early age. Lou studied architecture at the University of Michigan and at University of California.

(continued on page 2)

Sierra Club Yodeler

A semi-monthly publication of the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Address all communications to Yodeleditor, Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4.

Subscription $2.00
Accommodation Ads (Members) $.50 per ad
Accommodation Ads (Non-members) . . . . . $1.50 per inch

YODELER STAFF
Howard Frohlich, Editor
Cicely M. Christy — Erwin D. Blodgett
Margaret Milwain — Anna Rind
Esther Peters
Cartoonist . . . . . Elaine Barron
Production Manager . . . . A. Louis Elliott

NEXT DEADLINE: March 16

VOLUME XXI NO. 5 — March 2, 1959

Conservation (continued)

Mt. Diablo State Park already has a mass of buildings on the peak. Now the Navy wants to build another, small, of course, or so they say. The Commission objected. Commissioner Cache remembered that the Navy once demanded state park land near San Diego. Vital to national defense..no other place would do..most urgent! A few months later all was changed, project abandoned. The Navy should re-examine their plans for Mt. Diablo. Unfortunately the Commission, in suggesting the Navy go away and look for another peak mentioned Diablo North Peak as a possible alternative. Since Contra Costa groups have recently been concerned over the Army's desire to use that North Peak for a missile site, they will not be happy at this idea. —CMC

DARWIN SKI MOUNTAINEERING TOUR

It has been necessary to change the dates of the Easter Week Tour to March 26 through 29. As planned now, the tour will begin from Sabrina Camp. High Camp will be near Midnight Lake, from where it will be possible to climb and ski in the cirque to the East of Mt. Darwin (See Goddard Sheet, 15 minute series). Persons interested in this tour should contact Allen Steck at THornwall 3-6505 days, or Larry Williams, OLympic 4-6171, evenings, before March 19th.

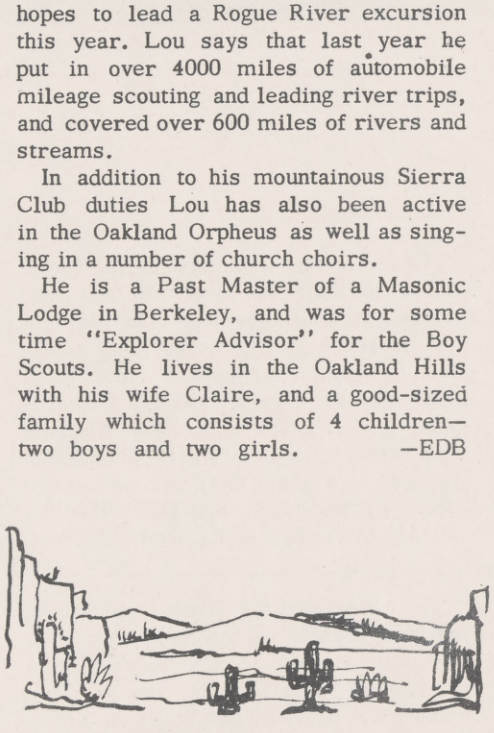
Up The River, Continued

He left school, however, to take over the print shop established by his father. He has been charged with the responsibility of printing the "Yodeler" since the mimeographed styling was abandoned 3 years ago, and the appearance of the paper has improved mightily under his direction.

Lou has been active in the skiing group at Norden, helped on the construction of Peter Grubb hut, a charter member and former chairman of the River Touring Group. He has led burro trips, and numerous river trips, such as those to Glen Canyon, Utah; Salmon River, Idaho; Dinosaur National Monument, Utah; and hopes to lead a Rogue River excursion this year. Lou says that last year he put in over 4000 miles of automobile mileage scouting and leading river trips, and covered over 600 miles of rivers and streams.

In addition to his mountainous Sierra Club duties Lou has also been active in the Oakland Orpheus as well as singing in a number of church choirs.

He is a Past Master of a Masonic Lodge in Berkeley, and was for some time "Explorer Advisor" for the Boy Scouts. He lives in the Oakland Hills with his wife Claire, and a good-sized family which consists of 4 children—two boys and two girls. —EDB



DEATH VALLEY

The Natural Science Section is sponsoring a trip to Death Valley March 21 to 29, to study the natural features and plant and animal life of this interesting area. The group will be limited in size, but there is still room for two or three cars. Camping and commissary will be by private car groups.

If interested, contact Neva Snell or Will and Alice Ward. —Neva Snell

For Sale

"Colony Blue" '49 Ford 2-dr sedan, with radio, heater, desirable stick shift (hard to get nowadays). Black sidewalls. One owner car, used only on local driving and Sierra Club trips, barely 126,-000 miles. Asking $200, (might take $185). MArket 1-1547.

Mountain ears Hear

Dear Howard—Vive le Yodeler! It's as gay as it is informative, and each issue makes me regret my inability to participate in all the sections instead of my currently favorite few. Keep up the good job you and your staff do. If the rest of us weren't so lazy we'd send in more contributions (of articles, that is). —Margaret Ames.

Vive le Ames! And thanks. Just shows, we can't displease all of the people all of the time.

David R. Brower is a coming attraction in Corvallis, we see from the newssheet of the Oregon State College Mountain Club. This publication calls itself "The Local Yodel" and we're not sure whether we should be flattered by the name or to sue for plagiarism.

Wedding bells rang February 28, for Elizabeth Louise Klevesahl, sometimes known as Betty, and James Samuel McCracken. Congratulations & best wishes, etc. to Betty & Jim (but next time don't schedule such an event in conflict with a ski-tour). The honor of the presence of sweet and lovable Yodelercontributor Earl Oliver was there. (See his article this issue.)

Neva Snell found a silver pin with a pine-cone design under the back seat of her car. It belongs to some unidentified rider, probably a Yodeler reader, who has gone with her sometime during the last 9 years she has owned her faithful car. If it's yours, contact Neva. And Neva, don't wait 9 years to clean the car next time—sometimes there's money under that rear seat.

HELP WANTED—Our last plea for staff members brought one answer, and she had school on Yodelernites and can't come. Our paper is becoming quite shorthanded with recent resignations. Because of personal reasons, but also including the fact that almost 6 years on the staff is long enough for me and for the readers as well, you won't be seeing many more issues with the initials —HF

Wild Flower Show

The 2nd Annual Wild Flower Show will be held at the Stinson Beach Community Center, May 2 & 3, from 10 to 5 on Saturday and noon to 5 on Sunday.

Admission will be 50¢ for adults and 25¢ for the under 16 set. Proceeds will go for the benefit of the Stinson Beach Chapel Building Fund.

A few wild flower plants grown from seed will also be for sale.

—Stinson Beach Church Guild, show sponsors

Snowshoers Convicted With Annotations

Re the controversy of skiers vs. snowshoers: I have nothing against showshoers.[1] Further, I feel it unnecessary for an inexpressible engineer to spring to the defense of a fluent attorney.[2] I know Ned as a sweet lovable type like myself, and all you need to do is understand us.[3] But out of genuine concern for the welfare of snowshoers,[4] I must point out that the replies to his jibes convict them of his charge, to wit, unpreparedness for mountaineering, in the matter of depth of the epidermis. As I and my illustrious colleague can testify, no one can consider himself a fully experienced mountaineer until he has ridden an avalanche. This ultimate of experience may come like a thief in the night, and a thin skin is a marked disadvantage in the melee which follows. I commend to all the laudable motto of the Boy Scouts.[5] —Earl Oliver

1. Some of my best friends are snowshoers.
2. I won't say what my old man calls them.
3. Many say it is not worth the effort.
4. I make it a practice always to be sincere, even when I don't mean it.
5. Look it up; a mountaineer should be self-reliant.

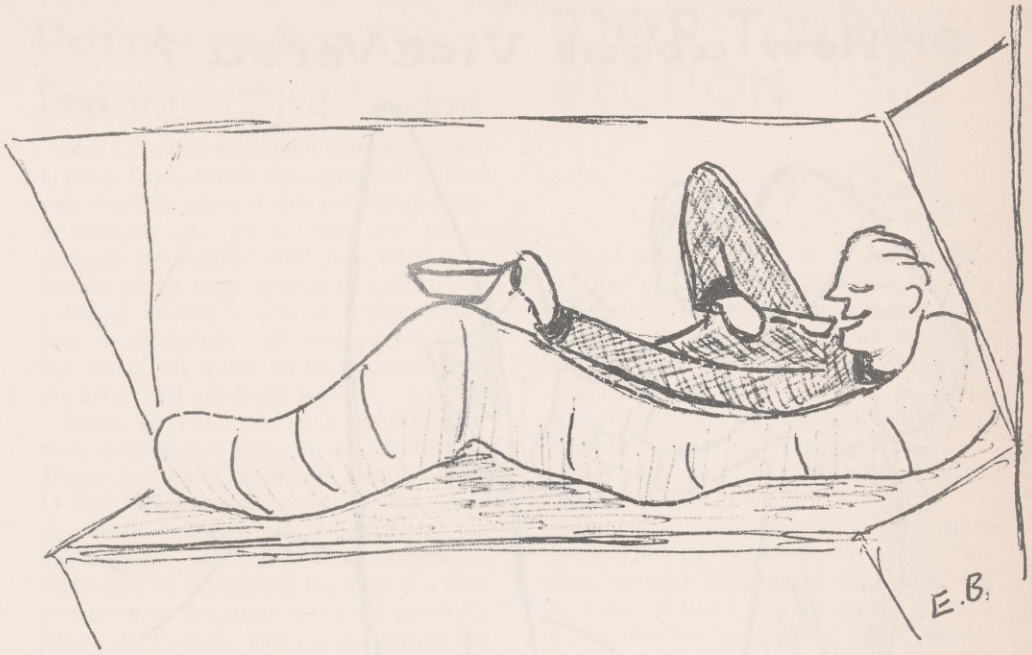
CTL NEWS

FEB. 14-15

Since your reporter was off galivanting in Alta, Utah, this weekend's news will be rather brief. It snowed. Jerry says that skiing was good—packed powder, although there were small difficulties with the rope on Saturday afternoon.

Alta notes: present on this safari across the wilds of Nevada and Great Salt Lake were George and Kay Homsey, Thelma Arlom, Phil Lyden, Don Rehbein, Jean Kearney, Don McCluskey, Don White and myself. A few of the memories that we shall carry with us . . . "Up at 5 A.M.? Are you serious?" "Yup". . . . Running out of gas just outside of Elko... Dry highway going and coming with lots of wind and threatening clouds...A long, low dog that just couldn't make up his

(continued on page 4)



SNOW CAMPING ~ Ne Plus Ultra

(This article wins The Yodeler free subscription for the best contribution this issue.)

The scouting party wishes to report that Lassen Volcanic National Park is superior snowshoer - knapsacker country with the additional advantage of a very fine substitute for snow-camping. Ten k-s'ers spent Washington's Birthday Weekend headquartered in elegant style at the Lake Helen Hut after mushing in about 5 or 6 miles from the Sulphur Works Ski Area. On Sunday the intrepid, indefatigable Doug Peterson, Rex Smith, Ned Jack and Ike Eikrum successfully scaled Lassen Peak as it is known to the initiated—those who say "Mt. Lassen" are in a class with those who say "the Sierras." From the summit they took pictures of Mount Shasta* floating above a sea of clouds. They didn't stay on top long tho'—Ike's orange juice froze while he was drinking it. Ned says he has lots of shots of the other 3 climbing over the ice slopes with crampons and using their ice-axes professionally. Meanwhile the sensible 6 followed the climber's route for a while and then lunched on the ridge overlooking Cinder and other cones. The landscapes were a Viennese pastry cook's dream—spun sugar trees and heavily frosted wedding cakes of hills and peaks except for the areas immediately adjacent to the fumaroles which had their own patterns of beauty to the eye but offended the nose; in the cold world there were some hot rocks and Wes Bunnelle repaired his feet in solid comfort on them.

Tho' the hut was designed to hold 4 snow-surveyors, by careful maneuvering the 10 in the party managed to find room for themselves and packs, and at night we tenderly brought in the snowshoes so we could put them on again in the morning. All of us could not stand up at the same time so several roosted in the bunks with meals prepared by Hasse being served there. **But when Jim Watters' chocolate ice cream was ready, Tom Gibson startled everyone by leaping out of bed for his share. The acme of luxury was the attached facility on the other side of the well-filled wood room, and after Tom changed its decor from Blue Grotto to the Daylight room, we didn't even have to use our flashlights.

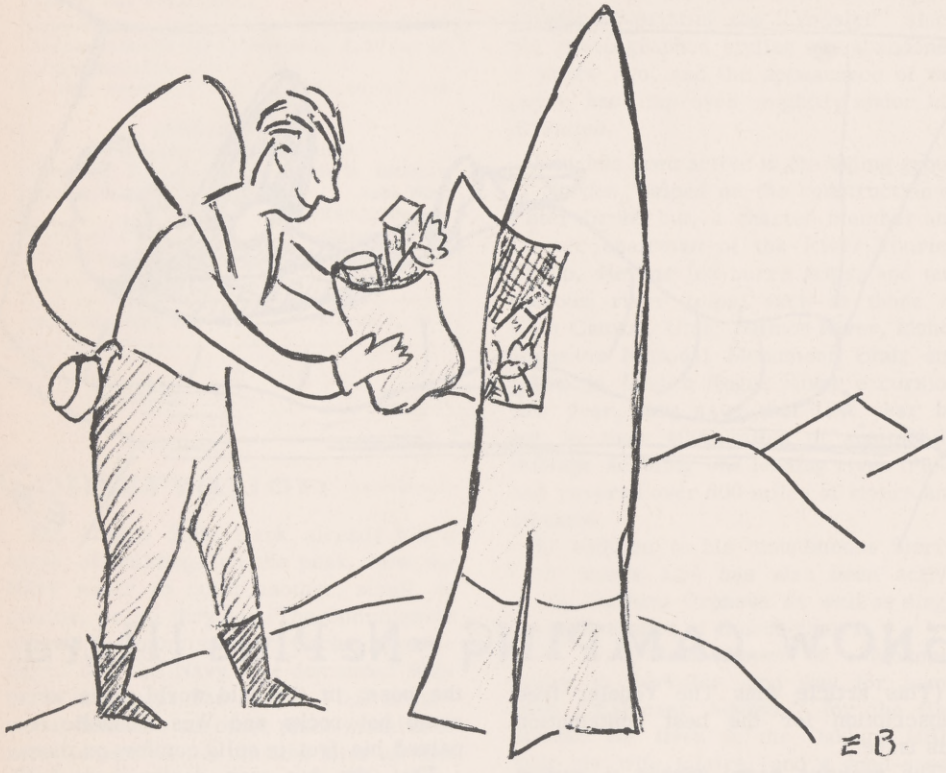
Despite minor inconveniences like the drip-drip-drip from the roof and the driest snow in anyone's memory (it took 12 dishpans full of snow to make one pot of water) our home away from home was deeply appreciated. Our special thanks go to the rangers at the Park who didn't scoff at our Odyssey but helped make the trip possible and gave us a weekend we'll long remember.

—Mildred Holota

* Shasta Peak, Millie?

** The first breakfast in bed we've ever heard of on a Sierra club trip!! —HF

Or How about Vice Versa ?



Cartoon "Vice Versa"

No one can say that Dr. Krafft Ehricke, who has spent 2 decades dreaming and working on man's conquest of space, doesn't give a thought to the earth once in a while.

One of his latest projects will turn the earth into a vast garbage disposal unit. By no means about to allow anyone to clutter up his nice clean space with old beer cans which a rocket ship might run into, Dr. Ehricke will have space station men simply pack their garbage into a garbage rocket and blast off at the earth. When it hits the atmosphere it will burn up, garbage and all. "Isn't that neat?" he said with a grin. S.F. Chronicle, 2/12/59

Neat or not, let's not aim at the mountains.

Big Doings on 50

Having been a rope tow area for low (sic!) these many years, we know that many of you would never come near us. Now in addition to having our rope tows, we also have in operation, finally, a brand new 1500 foot T-Bar which will carry two of you at a time up a 400 foot vertical rise in warm comfort.

Remember the old days when you had to walk into the area from Highway 50? Now we can park 200 cars right at the base of the ski hill.

Dozens of motels in the area. Just across the state line, less than 12 miles away, one can find not only big name entertainment but a type of recreation rarely found in California.

—Jean & Steve Myers,
Echo Summit Ski Area

Knapsack Training Course

Whether in ideas for food or equipment, or a review of first aid, there is something for the experienced as well as the beginning knapsacker to learn.

Schedule corrections: Millie Holota will speak on Food March 25, Winnie Thomas on April 1.

Also the April 8 meeting will be held on April 9.

All these Knapsack Training Courses are in the Mills Tower Assembly Room in SF, and the Central YMCA in Oakland. Watch for the meetings on your side of the bay and keep those evenings open.

—Doug Peterson
Knapsack Chairman

CTL NEWS Continued

mind where to go, unless it was to plop down in the middle of the dance floor... The Sitzmark Club... Alta chairlifts stop in the middle of snow storms, too... One day of brilliant picture-taking, breath-taking, blue sky... Waxing our skis the night before and standing still on 45-degree slopes... Lots and lots of food (three hots per day plus seconds)... Valentines Day (we had to leave)... Best of all, powder snow!!

FEB. 21-23

Excellent is about the only word applicable to this weekend. Snow: the weather was a little threatening Saturday, but Sunday and Monday were blessed with crystal-clear skies, balmy weather and POWDER. No kidding—it was so light that the snow survey people had to take two readings before they would believe it. Signal Hill ran all weekend with short shutdowns for minor repairs. Jackie Paris is up and around again—skiing, that is—on her now healed sprained ankle. As usual, Diane put forth those excellent meals for which she and the lodge are famous—the highlight being turkey for dinner—mm good! For the first time in history every hut, from Peter Grubb to Ludlow was filled. A word to the wise: since touring is becoming more and more popular, be sure to reserve huts in advance with Keith.

—Roberta Codis

Cedric Wright Photography Show

CEDRIC WRIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

All Sierra Club members are cordially invited to attend the preview party of the Cedric Wright Photography Show which will be held at the Orchard Nursery in Lafayette on Friday evening March 13 from 7 to 10 P.M. This show is being jointly sponsored by the Sierra Club and the Valley Art Center of Lafayette, and the central part of the exhibit will be shown all over the state. The title of the show is "Words of the Earth." The exhibit will also be on display the following night, Saturday March 14. However, Friday night is the occasion of the "Preview Party" and there is no admission charge. To reach the scene of this event, turn right off the eastbound Freeway at the first turn past Hidden Valley. See you there! —EDB

VACATION of 1893

It had been planned that Harold and I with Adolph and some others should have a trip into the new National Yosemite Reservation. We were delayed some weeks by Harold's school duties which did not end until the first of June.

Finally, five of us, Stratton, Adolph Cheek, Will Olney, Harold and I started off, well-loaded with provisions, for the Yosemite via Big Oak Flat. A week in camp under the Royal Arches with excursions to various parts of the Valley; a week in Little Yosemite, with excursions to Cloud's Rest and Glacier Point. A few days more in the lower Valley negotiating for pack-animals, a march northward to Hetch-Hetchy and Lake Vernon, and return to Crockers completed five weeks and the party broke up; the rest returned by stage to Oakland, while Harold and I made a ten-day's trip to the Tuolumne Meadows and Mt. Lyell. This trip proved quite severe, both on account of the continual strain of care and anxiety resting upon me in addition to the inevitable fatigue of the trip; and furthermore because of the torture we and our poor donkey had to endure from the mosquitoes.

The whole was for me a farewell survey and review of a noble region I never expect to visit again. For Harold it was an introduction to mountaineering, and the opening up of a new world of interest and delight. But, as the event proved, it was too strenuous for my best good. I am rather too old to rough it in this style.

—Cornelius Beach Bradley, Charter member of Sierra Club and father of the present president, referred to as "Harold" above. Received by delayed transmission and printed at this more convenient time.

****

TO: Tenth Mountain Division Personnel
RE: Reunion—1959

On Friday 29 May 1959 all personnel will assemble for a 3 day bivouac at the Brown Palace Hotel, in Denver, Colorado. Activities to please all tastes: Business Session, Division Beer Bust, War Memorial Dedication, Banquet, etc.

All Sierrans who were members of this famed outfit should reserve space by individual card to the Brown Palace Hotel.

Pointers For The Beginning Bird Student

Mr. Cogswell explained how to approach a bird, first. When you approach a bird you must be careful not to step on twigs or stumble over rocks, stay low, and go straight toward the bird. You must stay in one place very quietly and make owl calls or sounds which, to a bird, sound like a predator capturing a bird and the birds all gang up on predators, so the birds will approach you.

Once you are close to a bird, the next necessary step is to identify it. There are eight points to identification. 1) The shape includes not only the overall shape but the relative size of the head, neck, tail, and bill. 2) Size is estimated by comparing the size of a bird you know to the size of a bird you don't know. 3) Posture and locomotion is the way a bird sits and flies and whether he walks or hops. The food, if seen, is also important. 4) Mannerisms are the things that a bird does that identify him. The feeding mannerisms are also important. 5) Color pattern is the distribution of the colors on a bird. 6) Color (hues) are often thought of as first in identification but that is not so; this is only one of many. Be sure you see the color correctly and therefore keep the sun at your back for best vision. 7) Habitat is important with birds for they have definite habitats. 8) The voice of a bird is very distinctive because it is his way of identifying himself but it takes many years before correct identification can be made from voice. It also is important to know to which family a bird belongs.

—Penny Lockwood

Joanne Taylor took some of her Walnut Creek Junior High School students to the NSS meeting to hear Howard Cogswell of Mills College discuss the birds. Several write-ups by her students were submitted, all in extremely readable handwriting. Our conservation editor, Cicely Christy, has chosen this article as the best. Thanks, and congratulations, Penny.

—HF

TRANSPORTATION NEEDED

"Kitch" Kitchner has donated an over stuffed leather chair to the Lodge at Norden, but needs help in getting it there. Any generous soul who would take it in a station wagon please call TUxedo 5-2224 evenings or LAkehurst 3-4252, ext. 461 days.

RIVER TOURING SECTION

Last week several of us got together at Glen Gaumer's to plan the Spring's weekend river trips. The schedule looks pretty good for weekends, but the three section trips for vacation are even more appealing. Put these dates on your calendar for further reference and plan to join the group at that time.

May 4th through 8th—Owyhee River, Oregon. (See back cover).

July 3rd through 5th—The gang plans to go down the Rogue River again. This time instead of camping out, stops will be made at Black Bar Ranch and Mural's Ranch for hot meals and baths. Sunday night will be spent at the Hotel at Agnes' Landing so the first mail boat out on the 6th will get one to Gold Beach for the long trip home. The expense of this trip is still unknown, but watch your Yodeler for the latest news on this trip.

Middle of July—We plan to run the middle fork of the Salmon River and on down to Riggins via the main Salmon. This trip we hope will not cost more than $150.00 all told for ten days on the river. But again watch the Yodeler for the news.

Reservations for these trips must be in early (May 1st at the latest) and should be accompanied by a deposit of $25.00 which will be refunded only if you can find someone to take your place on the trip. These trips are for paddlers with white water experience only. Please contact Bryce Whitmore, #4 Live Oak Circle, El Sobrante, BEacon 4-3752 for additional information.

Remember on March 10th the Annual Boat Show will be held at the Old Canoe House on Lake Merritt. There are some fine looking boats lined up for you to view; the Pioneer and Hammer Foldboats and Stadmer Fiberglass Kayak for flat water enthusiasts. These are being shown besides any of the boats our members have made. —Elinore Ridge

OWYHEE* RIVER

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OAKLAND, CALIF.
PERMIT 1929

TIME VALUE
Please Expedite

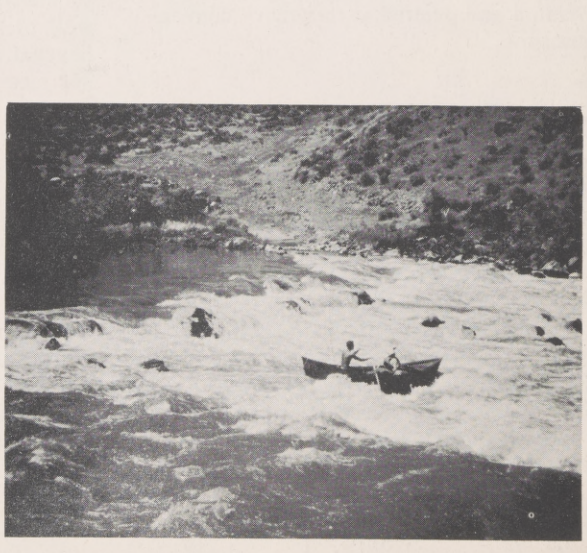
River Tourers to See New Canyon

Bob Pruitt is so in love with this river and the beautiful canyon through which it runs that he is practically giving us his services to introduce this trip to Sierra Clubbers. His movies and slides at the last River Touring Section meeting certainly gave convincing proof of the beauty and excitement in store for those who are lucky enough to go.

The Owyhee River lies in the South Eastern corner of Oregon and the countryside and river canyons early in May should be covered with wildflowers and lush grasses. The river should be full and exciting. Foldboaters should contact Bryce Whitmore, the trip leader, at BEacon 4-3752, #4 Live Oak Circle, El Sobrante.

Trip starts May 4 to 8 - 5 days on the river.
Cost: $55.00 per person.

We will welcome a limited number of river tourers without boats as we plan to have at least two support boats along. For more information call Lou Elliott, Chairman, River Touring Committee, OLympic 5-3801 evenings, or at HIgate 4-2054, days.



* Bob Pruitt tells us that this is a corruption of Hawaii, possibly so named because of the beautiful lava rock formations.